## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/ UNESCO: RDFORSTER: LL

3/12/73 EXT. 22560

APPROVED BY: IO/UNESCO: RDFORSTER

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R 122309 Z MAR 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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NESCO

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO MEDAN SURABAYA FROM JAKARTA  $\,10\,$  MAR  $73\colon$ 

**QUOTE JAKARTA 2915** 

E. O. 11652  $\,$  N/  $\,$ A

TAGS: EAID, SCUL, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN REQUEST FOR US CONTRIBUTION TO BOROBUDUR  $\,$ 

RESTORATION

SUMMARY: GOI HAS ASKED FOR USG CONTRIBUTION TO BOROBUDUR RESTORATION BEFORE JUNE 30 OF THIS YEAR. ALTHOUGH I AM WELL AWARE OF PROBABLE IMPOSSIBILITY OF OFFICIAL CONTRIBUTION, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF DEPARTMENT WOULD CHECK ON POSSIBILITY OF ACCELERATING ASIA SOCIETY FUND RAISING EFFORT ALREADY UNDER WAY AND CONSIDER ANY WAY WE CAN MAKE SOME TIMELY CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROJECT, WHICH IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE BOTH TO NATIONAL PRIDE AND TO PROFITABLE TOURISM. END SUMMARY.

1. DIRECTOR OF INTERATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, ABDULLAH KAMIL, REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH ME TODAY (MARCH 9 DURING WHICH HE DELIVERED GOI WRITTEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EQUEST FOR USG CONTRIBUTON TO RESTORATION OF RENOWNED BUDDHIST TEMPLE, BOROBUDUR. (TEXT BEING POUCHED). KAMIL EXPALINED THAT OF TOTAL \$7.75 MILLION REQUIRED, GOI HAS PLEDGED 2.75 MILLION, UNESCO (WHICH IS IN CHARGE OF RESTORATION) HAS UNDERTAKEN TO RAISE THE REST. THUS FAR, HOWEVER, UNESCO HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO RAISE \$3 MILLION WHICH MUST BE OBTAINED BEFORE JUNE 30 IF WORK IS TO BEGIN ON SCHEDULE, I. E. BY AUGUST 10. GOI IS THEREFORE ASKING FOR CONTRIBUTION FROM USG AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS BEFORE JUNE 30.

- 2. ACCORDING TO KAMIL, OFFICIAL PLEDGES OR CONTRIBUTIONS ALREADY MADE ROUGHLY AS FOLLOWS: JAPAN, \$600,000 FROM GOJ (PLUS \$1,200,000 PLEDGED FROM PRIVATE SECOTR); NETHERLANDS, \$155,000 (PLUS \$160,000 PRIVATE); FRANCE, \$45,000; BELGIUM \$20,000 AND AUSTRALIA \$200,000.
- 3. KAMIL SAID THAT GOI AWARE OF ASIA SOCIETY COMMITMENT TO TRY TO RAISE \$500,000. HE SAID THAT AMBASSADOR SJARIF THAJEB HAS BEEN ASKED TO CONTRACT SOCIETY TO CHECK ON STATUS OF THIS EFFORT BUT THIS FAR NO ANSWER RECEIVED.
- 4. I NOTED THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY USG COULD MAKE DIRECT OFFICIAL COMMITMENT GIVEN PRESENT BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF EXTREMELY SHORT LEAD TIME. I SAID THAT WE WERE WELL AWARE NOT ONLY OF GREAT CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF BOROBUDUR BUT ALSO OF ITS IMPORTANCE AS KEY TOURIST ATTRACTION OF CENTRAL JAVA, AND WE WERE THEREFOR ANXIOUS TO HELP IF A WAY COULD BE FOUND. I SAID WE WOULD BE WILLINGTO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF AID FOOD FOR WORK CONTRIBUTION TO THIS LABOR INTENSIVE PROJECT, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED INCLUDING FACT THAT BOROBUDUR IS NOT LOCATED IN A FOOD DEFICIT AREA.
- 5. I STRESSED TO KAMIL THAT THE MAJOR POTENTIAL FOR US PARTICIPATION LIES IN THE PRIVATE AND FOUNDATION SECTORS. IN THIS CONNECTION I POINTED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE INDONESIAN COULD DISPLAY GREATER EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE FUND RAISING AT HOME, PREFERABLY HEADED BY SOME PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS. (ALTHOUGH I DID NOT MENTION NAMES, IBNU SUTOWO OR MRS SUHARTO WOULD OF COURSE BE AMONG THE MOST OBVIOUS CANDIDATES.) I POINTED OUT THAT ONCE SUCH AN EFFORT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORGANIZED, IT COULD FACILITATE CONTACT WITH PRIVATE U.S.

FUND RAISERS, AND PERHAPS ALSO WITH U. S. FIRMS OPERATING HERE WITH WHOM SENIOR INDONESIANS HAVE EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE THE FACT THAT INDONESIAN SELF- HELP EFFORTS ON BOROBUDUR HAVE NOT YET BEEN ALL THAT THEY COULD BE, I FEEL THAT WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO INSURE THAT THE US DOES PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT BOTH BECAUSE OF ITS TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE TO INDONESIA'S SENSE OF PRIDE AND NATIONAL IDENTITY, AND BECAUSE OF ITS POTENTIAL AS LONGTERM EARNER OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE VIA TOURISM. I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONTACT PHILLIPS TABOT OF ASIA SOCIETY AND SEE IF THERE IS ANY CHANCE THAT ASIA SOCIETY FUND RAISING CAN BE ACCELERATED TO PRODUCE SOME RESULTS BEFORE JUNE 30 DEADLINE. AT THIS END, WE SHALL LOOK INTO FOOD FOR WORK POSSIBILITY. FINALLY, ANY IDEAS DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE AS TO OTHER POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN HELP WOULD BE WELCOME.

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT. GALBRAITH UNQUOTE ROGERS

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<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 12 MAR 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE045376

Document Number: 1973STATE045376
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/ UNESCO: RDFORSTER: LL

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: n/a Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a

From: SECSTATE WASHDC Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730324/aaaahjro.tel Line Count: 138 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE

Office: ORIGIN IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Classification: Liking D Office Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 73 JAKARTA 2915 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15 AUG 2001

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <27-Sep-2001 by morefirh>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971117
Subject: INDONESIAN REQUEST FOR US CONTRIBUTION TO BOROBUDUR RESTORATION

TAGS: EAID, SCUL, ID

To: PARIS

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005